8th grade English

Vocab List #11: PSSA Poetry Terms

1. alliteration - repetition of initial consonant sounds in neighboring words

2. allusion - reference to a familiar person, place or event

3. assonance - a sequence of words that have the same vowel sound

4. ballad – narrative poem in quatrains (4-line stanzas)

5. consonance - words having the same consonant sound within the words

6. epic - long narrative poem about the adventures of a hero

7. figurative language - written to create a special effect or feeling

8. free verse - does not have rhyme

9. haiku - has three lines, 17 syllables, and is usually about nature

10. homophone - words that are pronounced alike but spelled differently

11. hyperbole - exaggeration or overstatement

12. imagery - words which appeal to the senses

13. limerick - light or humorous verse form of 5 lines

14. lyric - poem which does not tell a story; reveals feelings

15. metaphor - compares two things without using like or as

16. meter - repetition of stressed and unstressed syllables

17. mood - emotions of a poem

18. narrative - poem which tells a story

19. onomatopoeia - use of words whose sounds express their meaning

20. personification - giving human qualities to an object or idea

21. poetry - uses meter/rhyme/imagery to evoke emotions

22. repetition - when words or phrases are said more than once

23. rhyme - identical/similar recurring final sounds in words

24. rhythm - pattern or beat of a poem

25. satire - literary tone used to ridicule or make fun of human habits or weaknesses

26. simile - compares two things using like or as

27. sonnet - lyric poem of 14 lines whose rhyme scheme is fixed

28. stanza – a group of lines in poetry (like a paragraph)

29. symbolism - when an object represents an idea

30. tone - attitude of the author toward audience & characters

**EXAMPLES**

alliteration - repetition of initial consonant sounds in neighboring words

sweet smell of success dime a dozen bigger and better jump for joy

Great green gorillas grow grapes in a gorgeous glass greenhouse

On the somber rafters, that round him made

Masses and moving shapes of shade

The timid, tattered and tired teacher stopped and sadly sighed at the sight of her scary students.

assonance - a sequence of words that have the same vowel sound

You may not delay today. You must weigh the clay and pay Mrs. Way before you can play.

The thug owed money, so he stole from a man taking a stroll and then boasted about it later.

Indeed the bumblebee would need seed to feed the creature by the tree.

consonance - words having the same consonant sound within the words

I’m sorry, but I do not dare to pierce my ears before requesting permission from my mother.

At camp, lucky hikers and walkers and bikers can gawk from canoes at the scenic cliffs and sneak next to crackling flakes of wood as the kettle bakes and smokes in the cold.

Can you handle the busy, dizzy schedule of show business?

epic - long, serious narrative poem about the adventures of a hero

Two of the most famous epic poems are the Iliad and the Odyssey by Homer, which tell about the

Trojan War, and the adventures of Odysseus on his voyage home after the war.

free verse - does not have rhyme

**My Poetry by De Anna Jarrel, 8th grade**

*Poetry to me*

*Is not a matter of*

*Inspiration*

*Or ideas*

*Poetry is a way of*

*Life*

*In my youth I have many questions*

*My poetry asks them*

*I have many passions*

*My poetry expresses them*

*I have many fears*

*My poetry shows them*

*I have many stories*

*My poetry tells them*

*I have many songs*

*My poetry sings them*

*My poetry breathes life*

*Into the words*

*And feelings*

*Floating around in my head*

*My poetry is beautiful*

*Because it is mine.*

haiku - has three lines, 17 syllables, and is usually about nature

Haiku is a Japanese poetry that has seventeen syllables and just three lines. It is a short poem that captures a moment in nature.

  Line 1:  Five syllables  
 Line 2: Seven syllables  
 Line 3: Five syllables

*A bitter morning  
Sparrows sitting together  
Without any necks.*

homophone - words that are pronounced alike but spelled differently

red/read, eye/I, bear/bare, hour/our

hyperbole - exaggeration or overstatement

I'm so hungry I could eat a horse. He's as big as a house.

tons of money, waiting for ages, a flood of tears

imagery - words which appeal to the senses

IMAGERY is a single word or phrase that appeals to one of our senses. An image can help us see

color or motion. Sometimes it can also help us hear a sound, smell and odor, feel texture or

temperature, or even taste - a sweet, sour, or salty flavor. Imagery is part of a poet’s style. It is a product of the poet’s own way of seeing the world.

limerick - light or humorous verse form of 5 lines

*A clumsy young fellow named Tim (A)  
 was never informed how to swim. (A)  
 He fell off a dock (B)  
 and sunk like a rock. (B)  
 And that was the end of him. (A)*

*A flea and a fly in a flue*

*Were caught, so what could they do?*

*Said the fly, "Let us flee."*

*"Let us fly," said the flea.*

*So they flew through a flaw in the flue.*

Now you try:

*There once was a pauper named Meg*

*Who accidentally broke her \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

*She slipped on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

*Not once, but thrice*

*Take no pity on her, I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

lyric - poem which does not tell a story; reveals feelings

**Dying (aka I heard a fly buzz when I died ) by Emily Dickinson**

*I heard a fly buzz when I died;  
 The stillness round my form  
 Was like the stillness in the air  
 Between the heaves of storm.*

metaphor - compares two things without using like or as

He is a pig/ Thou art sunshine/ the world's a stage/ he was a lion in battle/ drowning in debt/

a sea of troubles

narrative - poem which tells a story

Ballads and epics are different kinds of narrative poems.

onomatopoeia - use of words whose sounds express their meaning

splash, wow, gush, kerplunk

personification - giving human qualities to an object or idea

a smiling moon, a jovial sun the sky is crying, dead leaves danced in the wind, blind justice.

poetry - uses meter/rhyme/imagery to evoke emotions

Poetry is piece of literature written by a poet in meter or verse expressing various emotions which are expressed by the use of variety of techniques including metaphors, similes and onomatopoeia. The emphasis on the aesthetics of language and the use of techniques such as repetition, meter and rhyme are what are commonly used to distinguish poetry from prose. Poems often make heavy use of imagery and word association to quickly convey emotions.

rhyme - identical/similar recurring final sounds in words

go/show/glow/know/though

rhythm - pattern or beat of a poem

RHYTHM is a constant part of life. We hear it everyday in songs we listen to. In poetry, simply, it is the "da-duh, da-duh" sound we hear in the syllables in poetry. Sometimes rhythm is created with the

repetition of words and phrases.

satire - literary tone used to ridicule or make fun of human habits or weaknesses

The line between parody and satire is often blurred. Satires need not be humorous, indeed they are often tragic, while parodies are almost inevitably humorous. Some parodies with heavy elements of

satire include:

The Monty Python movies, satirizing British character types

The Onion's parody of journalism

Saturday Night Live, parodies of famous people

simile - compares two things using like or as

He eats like a pig. Vines like golden prisons.

sonnet - lyric poem of 14 lines whose rhyme scheme is fixed

***A Gift for the World by Lucy Barbo, 8th grade***

*Some people tend to forget about the old*

*Surely the elderly believe that is so*

*We mustn't forget they are precious like gold*

*We have to appreciate how much they know*

*Often they're treated as though they were babies*

*As we put them in homes, we don't realize*

*That they have feelings, too, and just maybe*

*They are not old through someone else's eyes*

*In nursing homes they may be neglected*

*Being old truly should not be a crime*

*Society makes them feel rejected*

*But they know we all will be old in time*

*As we treat the old, so may we be treated*

*Because history tends to be repeated.*

symbolism - when an object represents an idea

the bird of night (owl is a symbol of death)  a flag symbolizes a nation

the cross is a symbol for Christianity Uncle Sam a symbol for the United States

tone - attitude of the author toward audience & characters

serious, humorous, sarcastic, ironic, satirical, tongue-in-cheek, solemn, objective, playful, formal,

intimate, angry, outraged, baffled, tender, serene, depressed, etc.